MAY 0 5 2006

Attorney's Docket No. <u>1018961-000077</u>

NITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

2006 MAY -8 PM 4: 30

Masao JINNO et al.

Group Art Unit:

Confirmation No.:

US PATENT & TRADEMARK

Examiner:

OFFICE

Application No.: 10/573,991

Filed: March 30, 2006

CENTRIFUGING SETTLING TUBE

AND ORGANIC CELL COLLECTION TUBE

STATEMENT OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS AND REQUEST FOR REFUND

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

For:

The above-identified application was filed on March 30, 2006. Applicants are entitled to small entity status. The undersigned thus respectfully requests a refund in the amount of \$675.00 representing one-half of the fees submitted at the time this application was filed. The Commissioner is authorized to credit such refund to our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Should any questions arise concerning this matter, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date: May 5, 2006

Rv

Matthew L. Schneider

Registration No. 32,814

P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620